



TO: West Virginia Healthcare Providers, Hospitals and Other Healthcare Facilities

FROM: Ayne Amjad, MD, MPH, Commissioner and State Health Officer
West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health

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LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS: Please distribute to community health providers, hospital-based physicians, infection control preventionists, laboratory directors and other applicable partners.

OTHER RECIPIENTS: Please distribute to association members, staff, etc.

On October 21, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) endorsed the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendation for a booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine in certain populations.

CDC recommends the booster dose for individuals who have received the **Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna** COVID-19 vaccine in the following groups at **6 months** or more after their initial series:

- People aged 65 years and older
- People aged 18+ who live in [long-term care settings](#)
- People aged 18+ who have [underlying medical conditions](#)
- People aged 18+ who work or live in [high-risk settings](#)

For the individuals that received the **Johnson & Johnson/Janssen** COVID-19 vaccine, a booster dose is also recommended for those who are 18 and older who were vaccinated **2 months** or more ago.

It is also recognized that some people may not prefer the vaccine type they originally received and may prefer to receive a different booster. CDC's recommendations now allow for this type of mix and match dosing for booster shots.

All emergency use authorizations have been updated and can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/eua/index.html>. For additional information on the booster dose, visit the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy website at: <https://www.wvbop.com/>.

West Virginians who meet CDC eligibility recommendations are strongly encouraged to choose COVID-19 vaccination, which now includes a booster recommendation for all three available COVID-19 vaccines in the United States. For questions about this advisory, contact the Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services (OEPS) at 1-800-423-1271, ext. 1; 304-558-5358, ext. 2; or the 24/7 answering service at 304-342-5151.